



Martin Luther King Jr. Day

by Trudi Strain

Martin Luther King Jr. was a brave African American leader. He was born on January 15th, 1929. His family nicknamed him M. L. He grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. He had an older sister, Christine, and a younger brother, Alfred. King married Coretta Scott in 1953. They had four children.

After college, King became a minister like his father and grandfather were. People called him Reverend King or Dr. King. African Americans did not have the same rights as white people in the 1950s. They could not go to the same schools as whites. They could not eat in the same restaurants. They could not even use the same drinking fountains.

King began to speak out against laws that treated people differently. He led peaceful marches. He gave powerful speeches. King's most famous speech was called **“I Have a Dream”**. He said he hoped that someday his children would live in a nation where the color of their skin would not matter.

King's words helped change things. U.S. President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act in 1964. It gave all Americans equal rights. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 made sure that every adult American who wanted to vote could do so. Many people agreed with King. Others were strongly against him. King was shot and killed on April 4, 1968.

A national holiday was created to honor King in 1983. It is the third Monday in January. Banks, schools, and post offices close on this day. Many American schools hold special ceremonies the Friday before Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Students read essays about what civil rights mean to them. They talk about how to treat people of all races fairly. Churches hold special services on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. People read out loud from King's speeches. Choirs and musical groups perform. Some families visit museums on the holiday. They look at photos of King and the way life used to be before the Civil Rights Act. They may also watch a videotape of King speaking.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is also a day to serve others. Many people pick up litter in their neighborhood. They plant trees in the park. They help feed and house the homeless. Cities across America also hold parades and marches. People of all backgrounds walk together in memory of Martin Luther King Jr. and his dream.

Polar Bear Snack



Materials:

Rice cake (cinnamon & sugar or plain)

Cottage cheese

Black olives or raisins

Oreo cookie

Banana

Plastic knife

Directions:

Slice banana and place black olives in a small bowl. Let children spread cottage cheese on a rice cake. Use oreo cookie for the polar bear's nose and, the black olives or raisins for the eyes. Finish the polar bear snack with two banana slices for the ears. This is a simple, healthy, and delicious snack children will enjoy to make and eat.

Peace Puppet

To make one puppet, cut a six-inch white paper plate in half. Set one piece aside for the body and cut the other piece in half to form wings. Cut out a white construction paper head and a yellow construction paper beak. Glue the parts together, adding a wiggle eye to the head. Complete the puppet by taping or gluing a large craft stick to the back of the body.

ImagINation Learning Center
14425 Newbrook Drive
Chantilly, VA 20151
kindergarten.koalas@yahoo.com

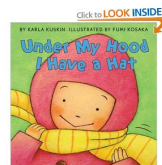


To: Miss Maria's Koalas

The Book Nook:

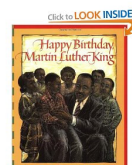
**Under My Hood
I Have A Hat**
by: Karla Kuskin

Winter is here
and it's time to
put on your gloves
and mittens
and scarf
and hat
and...



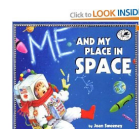
**Happy Birthday Martin
Luther King**
by: Jean Marzollo

Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream of peace and equality. Because he worked so hard for freedom and helped so many people to gain it, we honor him every year on his special day. In 1963, he led a peace march all the way to the White House in Washington, D.C. He spoke of his dream for the United States. He did not want fighting. He wanted peace.



**Me And My Place In
Space**

by Joan Sweeney
Where is the earth? Where is the sun? Where are the stars? With earth as a starting point, a young astronaut leads readers on a tour past each planet and on to the stars, answering simple questions about our solar system. In clear language, drawings, and diagrams, space unfolds before a child's eyes. **Colorful illustrations**, filled with fun and detail, give children a lot to look for on every page and a glossary helps reinforce new words and concepts. A terrific teaching tool, Me and My Place in Space is an easy and enjoyable way to introduce the concept of space to the very youngest astronomers.



ImagINation Learning Center

Editor: Miss Maria

Class: Kindergarten Koalas

Koala Kingdom

January 2012



Happy New Year!

In this Issue:

Happy New Year!	Pg 1
What to Expect	Pg 1
Martin Luther King Jr.	Pg 2
Polar Bear Snack	Pg 3
Peace Puppet	Pg 3
The Book Nook	Pg 4

What to Expect in Kindergarten this Month...

Lessons:

Space: Earth and Solar System
Community Workers
Martin Luther King
Addition and Subtraction
High Frequency Words
Rhyme words
Sentence Parts

Activities:

Center Closed: Monday
January 2nd
No school: January 16th, 30th,
and 31st Center Open